

ANTI-BRIBERY & CORRUPTION (ABC) POLICY**1. POLICY STATEMENT:**

This policy is issued in pursuant to “Code of Ethics and Business Conduct” and to ensure that the business of WAAREE ENERGIES LTD. is conducted in an honest and ethical manner. The Company takes a zero-tolerance approach to Bribery and Corruption and is committed to acting professionally, fairly and with integrity in all its business dealings and relationships wherever it operates, as well as implementing and enforcing effective systems to counter bribery. The Company will uphold all laws relevant to countering bribery and corruption in all the jurisdictions in which it operates. It remains bound by local, national and international laws.

2. DEFINITIONS :

A) **“Bribery” / “Corruption”**: Bribery occurs when one person offers, pays, seeks or accepts a payment, gift, favour, or a financial or other advantage to another to unfairly influence a business outcome, to induce or reward improper conduct or to gain any commercial, contractual, regulatory or personal advantage. It can be direct or indirect through Third Parties or agent.

Corruption includes wrongdoing on the part of an authority or those in power through means that are illegitimate, immoral or incompatible with ethical standards. Corruption often results from patronage and is associated with bribery.

- **“Third Party”**: Any individual or organisation that interacts with the Company and its employees. This includes actual and potential customers, suppliers, business contacts, Intermediaries, government and public bodies, including their advisors, representatives and officials, politicians and political parties.
- **“Agent”**: Any individual acting as an agent, appointed by the Company, acting on the Company’s behalf in negotiating with Third Parties.

Examples of bribery include, but are not limited to:

- ❖ **“Gifts”**: Gifts given or received to unfairly influence a business outcome
- ❖ **“Travel and entertainment Expenses”**: Unreasonable expenditures of third parties and /or their relatives for travel, meals, and

- ❖ entertainment expenses not legitimately related to tours of the Company's facilities or that may not be related to the Company's promotion of its services.
- ❖ "Facilitation Payments": Any payment made with the purpose of expediting or facilitating the performance by a Public Official of a routine governmental action.
- ❖ "Kickback": A bribe to obtain an undue advantage, where a portion of the undue advantage flows to the person who gave, or is supposed to give, the undue advantage.
- ❖ "Donation": A Donation in the form of monetary or non-monetary gifts to a fund or cause wherein return service or payment is expected or made. Contributions to industry associations or fees for memberships in organisations that serve business interests are not necessarily considered Donations. o "Offering Employment": Offering employment to a relative of third party in order to gain unfair advantage in a present / future business dealing or as a quid pro quo for an advantage that was bestowed upon us in a business dealing in the past

B) Other Parties:

- ❖ "Intermediary": Includes but is not limited to Agents, distributors, consultants, sales representatives, implementation partners, sales partners.
- ❖ "Public Official": Officials or employees of any government or other public body, agency or legal entity, at any level, including officers or employees of state-owned corporations.

C) "ABC Officer": A senior employee deputed by the Top Management to administer and ensure compliance related to the Anti-Bribery & Corruption (ABC) Policy. As of now this responsibility is given to Mr. Vishal Upadhyay (HR Manager)

3. SCOPE :

This policy applies to all employees (full-time, part-time and those on contractual assignments) of the Company including entities over which the Company has management control. This policy is also applicable to relevant Third Parties and their employees deployed for the Company's activities, whether working from any of the Company's offices or any other location and shall be communicated to them prior to entering into a business

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relationship and as appropriate thereafter. This policy applies in all countries or territories where the Company operates. Where local customs, standards, laws or other local policies apply that are stricter than the provision of this policy, the stricter rules will be complied with. However, if this policy stipulates stricter rules than local customs, standards, laws or other local policies, the stricter rules of this policy shall apply.

4. PRINCIPLE & GUIDELINES :

4.1 GIFTS:

The Company does not permits employees to accept any items such as but not limited to Cash, Vouchers of any kind, Sweets, Donations, Jewellery or Favours from anybody.

The company however appreciates the fact that the practice and culture of giving business gifts varies between countries and regions and what may be normal and acceptable in one region may not be so, in another. In all circumstances, the test to be applied is whether the gift or hospitality is reasonable, justifiable and proportionate. The intention behind the gift should always be considered.

4.2 TRAVEL AND ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES :

The company acknowledges that there could be instances of nominal expenses incurred during interactions/engagements with Business Partners/Third Parties. These expenses could be towards lunch/dinner meals, organizing vehicle for local commute to place of work or meeting; not extended to family members/relatives of Business Partners/Third Parties who are not connected with Business.

Any expenses towards outstation travel of Business Partners/Third Parties (as defined in this Policy) including air fare, lodging and boarding would need the approval of the Business Head. The 'Domestic Tour and Travel Policy for employees' can be used as a guide for permissible limits for such expenses, keeping in mind the role and position of the Third Party/Business Partner in his/her own organization. The approver would ensure that expenses are in line with this Policy read along with the Code of Ethics and Business Conduct of the Company.

4.3 FACILITATION PAYMENTS:

As a general practice, Company does not make Facilitation Payments of any kind anywhere in the world. The only limited exception to this is in circumstances where the safety or security of the employee or the Third

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Party is at stake and for which prior written approval must be obtained from the ABC Officer.

4.4 KICKBACKS:

The Company prohibits making or accepting kickbacks of any kind. Employees must avoid any activity that might lead to or suggest that a Kickback will be / has been made or accepted by the Company.

4.5 DONATIONS**a) TO CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS**

Donations to charitable organizations ordinarily are considered good corporate citizenship. The Company only makes charitable donations that are legal and ethical under local laws and practices and also within the corporate governance framework of the Company. The Company's CSR initiatives focus on causes such as Education, Health & Sanitation, Environment and Livelihood.

b) TO POLITICAL PARTIES

Political contributions are monetary or non-monetary (e.g., resources, facilities) contributions to support political parties, politicians or political initiatives.

The Company does not make any kind of political contributions and expects all to adhere to the same.

4.6 OFFERING EMPLOYMENT TO A FRIEND OR RELATIVE OF THIRD PARTY

The Company would not give preference during recruitment to any friend or relative of a third party. All candidates will be selected only on the basis of merit.

5. EMPLOYEE ACCOUNTABILITIES :

a) It is not acceptable for employees (or someone on their behalf) to:

- Give, promise to give, or offer, a payment, gift or hospitality to a Public Official or Third Party:

- i) with the expectation or hope that a business advantage will be received, or to reward a business advantage already given;

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- ii) To 'facilitate' or expedite a routine procedure;
 - iii) in employee's name and not in the name of the Company;
 - iv) If it includes cash or a cash equivalent (such as gift certificates or vouchers);
 - v) if it is of an inappropriate type and value and given at an inappropriate time (e.g. during a tender process); and
 - vi) if it is given secretly and not openly.
- Threaten or retaliate against another employee who has refused to commit a bribery offence or who has raised concerns under this policy.

The points stated above are illustrative in nature and in no way, intend to limit the applicability of this Policy.

- b) The prevention, detection and reporting of any form of Bribery & Corruption are the responsibility of all employees. Employees must notify Company's Whistle blower body as soon as possible, if they are offered a bribe, are asked to make one, suspect that this may happen in the future, or believe that they are a victim of another form of unlawful activity or are aware of any bribe paid or received by any colleague or third party.
- c) This Policy shall apply to all employees and all employees need to ensure strict adherence to the Policy irrespective of whether amount paid for gifts, entertainment, travel etc. are claimed by the employee from the Company.
- d) All Employees have the responsibility to read, understand and comply with this policy. They should at all times, avoid any activity that might lead to, or suggest, a breach of this policy.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Company's Code of Ethics and Business Conduct.

6. **WILFUL BLINDNESS:** If an employee wilfully ignores or turns a blind eye to any evidence of corruption or bribery within his / her department and/or around him / her, it will be treated as a violation under this policy. Although such conduct may be "passive", i.e. the employee may not have directly participated in or may not have directly benefited from the corruption or bribery concerned, the wilful blindness to the same can, depending upon the circumstances, carry the same disciplinary action as an intentional act.

7. CLAIMS BY EMPLOYEES FOR PAYMENTS MADE FOR GIFT, TRAVEL AND ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES :

Employees need to take prior approval for making payments for Gifts and Travel and Entertainment expenses of Third Parties or Public Officials as per the policy.

Reimbursement for such expenses incurred should be requested by filling a Payment Voucher as per Company's guidelines mentioning details such as name of the Party entertained, recipient of the gift and the reasons for the gift or entertainment etc. The duly sanctioned pre-approval, together with original receipts / Invoices, must be attached to the Payment Voucher along with reimbursement claim.

8. RECORD KEEPING

The Company will keep financial records and have appropriate internal controls in place, which will evident the business reason for making payments to, and receiving payments from, third parties.

Employees must declare and keep a written record of all hospitality or gifts accepted or offered, which will be subject to managerial review and/or a review from the Director or Chairman.

Employees must ensure that all expense claims relating to hospitality, gifts or expenses incurred for third parties are submitted in accordance with the Company's applicable policy and specifically record the reason for such expenditure. Employees shall further ensure that all expense claims shall comply with the terms and conditions of this policy.

All accounts, invoices, memoranda and other documents and records relating to dealings with third parties, such as clients, suppliers and business contacts, should be prepared and maintained with strict accuracy and completeness. No records shall ever be kept "off-book" to facilitate or conceal improper payments.

9. AUDIT PROCEDURES TO VERIFY COMPLIANCE

In line with this Policy, the Company may conduct, via the Internal Audit Department and/or an external auditor, regular and confidential audits as described in this section. These regular audits are designed to prevent and detect violations of the Anti-Bribery and Anti- Corruption Policy and other

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Company policies, practices and procedures. The audits shall focus on the following items:

- ensuring compliance with the Anti-Bribery and Anti- Corruption Policy;
- communication with and education of all pertinent Company Personnel;
- establishment and implementation of monitoring mechanisms;
- review of a random sample of the Company's business agreements;
- due diligence procedures taken prior to entering into arrangements with third parties; and
- Best efforts to ensure all subsidiaries comply with the Anti-Bribery and Anti- Corruption Policy.

10. PROTECTION FROM RETALIATION

Employees who refuse to take part in bribery or corruption, or report in good faith under this policy their suspicion that an actual or potential bribery or other corruption offence has taken place or may take place in the future will be protected from detrimental treatment/retaliation. Detrimental treatment includes dismissal, disciplinary action, threats or other unfavourable treatment connected with raising a concern.

11. GOVERNANCE

The respective Business Unit Heads or Corporate Functional heads have overall responsibility for ensuring that their Business Unit or Corporate Function complies with our legal and ethical obligations, and that all those under our control comply with it.

Managers at all levels are responsible for ensuring that they exemplify the principles outlined in this policy and ensure that their team adheres to the policy.

12. REPORTING OF CONCERNS & VIOLATIONS AND RAISING OF QUERIES ON ANTIBRIBERY AND CORRUPTION

Every person, to whom this policy applies, is encouraged to raise their concerns about any bribery issue or suspicion of malpractice at the earliest possible stage.

The Company has formulated the Whistle Blower Policy with a view to provide a mechanism for its employees to raise concerns on any violations

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of Company Policies especially with respect to legal or regulatory requirements or financial irregularities etc. (For more details, refer to the

procedure for reporting and dealing with disclosures under the Whistle Blower Policy).

Whistle blowers are encouraged to put their names to their disclosures. However, individuals may raise concerns anonymously.

Once an employee's disclosure or concern has been submitted, it will be jointly reviewed by the Whistle Blower Team & the ABC Officer.

The ABC Officer & Whistle Blower Team will jointly appoint an ABC Committee to jointly conduct investigation as mentioned below:

- i) In case of Production Branches : HR Personnel of the respective unit, Internal Audit team member, Finance personnel, & Plant Head or any other person nominated by the CMD Office
- ii) In Case of HO : HR of the Corporate Function, the Divisional Finance Head, ABC officer, or any other person nominated by the CMD Office

The ABC Committee shall conduct such investigations in a timely manner and shall submit a written report containing the findings and recommendations to the ABC Officer as soon as practically possible and in any case, not later than 30 days from the date of receipt of the Disclosure.

The ABC Officer, Whistle Officer & Head – Personnel & Administration or any other person nominated by the CMD Office will jointly decide the action to be taken on the recommendations.

The Committee's report will be dealt with confidentiality. If an employee is unsure whether a particular act constitutes bribery or corruption or if they have any other queries, these should be raised with their respective Manager and / or Divisional Compliance Officer and/or the ABC Officer.

13. CORRECTIVE MEASURES:

Employees who violate this Policy are subject to disciplinary action which may include any of the following:

- a. Formal apology
- b. Counselling
- c. Written warning and a copy of it maintained in the employee's file.
- d. Change of work assignment / transfer
- e. Suspension or termination of services of the employee found guilty of the offence
- f. In extreme cases where reputation of company is diluted in the market because of bribe or corruption incidents, Local authorities / Police / Legal bodies will be involved and actions will be taken according to Indian Penal Code.

Commercial partners, such as consultants and representatives that violate this Policy may be subject to the imposition of large fines / penalties as the case may be or the immediate termination of all commercial relationships with the Company in discussion with the respective Business Heads.

The Company is in the process of providing an online portal to all employees and third parties, wherein they will be able to make disclosures of any breach of this policy. The disclosures will be directed to the respective authorities for further action.

14. MONITERING & REVIEW

- a) This Policy will be administered by the Company's ABC Officer, who will monitor the effectiveness and review the implementation of this policy, regularly considering its suitability, adequacy and effectiveness. The Divisional management team will report any violations of this Policy to the ABC Officer. The ABC Officer will be supported by the Company's CMD Office, Internal Audit, Finance, and Legal Departments.
- b) To ensure that all Company employees and all its business partners, relevant third parties, subsidiaries and affiliates are thoroughly familiar with the provisions of this Policy and any other applicable anti-corruption laws, the Company shall provide training and resources to Company employees, as appropriate.

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- c) Internal control systems and procedures will be subject to regular audits to provide assurance that they are effective. Head – Internal Audit will report to the ABC Officer annually on the application and effectiveness of this policy.

Approved By:


Dr. Hitesh Doshi
Chairman and Managing Director



Mr. Viren Doshi
Director



Mr. Hitesh Mehta
Director